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IN THE

# Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1973

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No.

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RICHARD B. PESIKOFF, *et al.*,

*Petitioners,*

v.

THE SECRETARY OF LABOR,

*Respondent.*

---

## PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

---

Richard B. Pesikoff and Maria De Jesus Quintero, petitioners, pray that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia which affirmed an order of the District Court dismissing the complaint herein.

## OPINIONS BELOW

The majority and dissenting opinions of the Court of Appeals (App. A) and judgment (App. B) are unreported and were filed on May 3, 1974. A petition for rehearing was denied on May 30, 1974 (App. C). The District Court filed no opinion. Its order was entered on November 7, 1972 (App. D).

## JURISDICTION

The judgment of the Court below was entered on May 3, 1974, and a petition for rehearing was denied on May 31, 1974. The jurisdiction of this Court is conferred pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Where petitioners allege and the facts establish that they sought a labor certification for a live-in-maid to care for two infant children pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) and their complaint alleges that there was a shortage of live-in maids, a fact verified by the Texas Employment Commission, that available day workers were neither qualified nor willing to perform the duties required, that the denial of a labor certification did not adequately set forth findings, was not supported by evidence and was based upon rules not published in the Federal Register, did the complaint state a cause of action?

2. Was it error for the Court of Appeals to sustain denial of a labor certification herein solely upon the basis of information and statistics furnished by the Texas Employment Commission (stated by respondent to be unreliable) where that Commission found that petitioners' request

for a live-in maid was bona fide, that the prevailing wages were offered, that no live-in maids were available and that most available day workers were employed part-time, refuse to cook, were not desirable and could not furnish valid references?

3. Was it error for the Court of Appeals to affirm a District Court dismissal for failure to state a cause of action upon the basis that petitioners failed to sustain their burden of proof and for the Court of Appeals to rely upon grounds not advanced by the administrative agency (*i.e.*) that petitioner, Pesikoff, could recruit part-time help and offer increased wages to recruit domestic workers?

4. Was it proper for the Court of Appeals to conclude without evidence in the record that petitioner, Pesikoff, did not make "any attempt to contact the maids registered" at the Texas Employment Service where no such findings were made either administratively or by the District Court and where regulations and practices of the Department of Labor precluded revelation to petitioners of names and addresses of registered applicants?

5. Was the denial of the Labor certification herein contrary to existing rules and regulations of the Secretary of Labor and therefore null and void?

## STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) [Section 212(a)(14)] of the Immigration and Nationality Act provides for the exclusion from the United States of the following:

> "Aliens seeking to enter the United States, for the purpose of performing skilled or unskilled labor, unless the Secretary of Labor has

determined and certified to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General that (A) there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, and available at the time of application for a visa and admission to the United States and at the place to which the alien is destined to perform such skilled or unskilled labor, and (B) the employment of such aliens will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of the workers in the United States similarly employed.* * *"

5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1)(D) requires publication of:

"substantive rules of general applicability adopted as authorized by law and statements of general policy or interpretation of general applicability formulated and adopted by the agency."

5 U.S.C. 552(a)(1)(E) provides:

"Except to the extent that a person has actual and timely notice of the terms thereof, a person may not in any manner be required to resort to, or be adversely affected by, a matter required to be published in the Federal Register and not so published."

5 U.S.C. 553(b) requires that:

"General notice of proposed rule making shall be published in the Federal Register, unless persons subject thereto are named and either personally served or otherwise have actual notice thereof in accordance with law."

5 U.S.C. 551(4) defines rule as meaning:

> "the whole or part of an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the organization, procedure, or practice requirements of an agency * * *."

29 C.F.R. 60.3 (36 F.R. 2463, February 4, 1971) provides in part that applications for labor certifications:

> "shall be filed with any local office of the State Employment Service serving the area where the alien will be employed. After a review of the forms and area labor market information pertaining to the availability of U.S. workers and to the prevailing wages and working conditions in the area of employment similar to the alien's intended employment, the State Employment Service shall forward the form and information to the office of the Manpower Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor for that area. A labor certification determination will be made based on the information submitted by the State Employment Service and any other applicable data available to the Manpower Administration area office."

Field Memorandum No. 183-69 of October 10, 1969, of respondent to all Regional Manpower Administrators, established guidelines for certifications of live-in maids, stating:

> "If there is availability of live-in workers, deny on availability. If there is no availability for live-in workers, and the combination of job

duties and hours of work (such as 8 to 5 or 9 to 6) are usual for live out maid or dayworker and if these workers are available, deny on availability.

"*Approvals*

If there is absolutely no availability or adverse effect, the basis for considering the stated condition for child care, special care or hardship conditions must be fully explored and when reasonable should be documented. Certification can be issued if it is ascertained that the job duties and hours are reasonable and that possible irregularity of attendance of day workers would create hardship. If there is an adult in the household who is not employed on a full time basis, a presumption exists that this person is available to be with a pre-school child or infirm person if a live out worker is absent from work on occasion.

"*General Comments*

* * *

(2) Care of pre-school children would apply when both parents work or when there is only one adult in the family and he or she works.
* * *

(4) It should be noted that a split shift is not consistent with a claimed need for child or special care and warrants a reasonable explanation.

(5) Availability is not determined solely by applicants on file in a local office. Unemployment

> rates in the area, information from all community sources, and results of recent telephone surveys must be weighed."

Field Memorandum No. 378-73 of December 4, 1973, of the Department of Labor reflects the present and past practices relating to disclosure as follows:

> "Names of applicants and employers are not to be divulged, nor other identifying material such as social security numbers, addresses and telephone numbers."

## STATEMENT

In July 1971, petitioner, Pesikoff, a child psychiatrist of Houston, Texas, whose wife is attending law school, sought a labor certification[1] for the alien petitioner, Quintero, as a live-in maid to care for his two children, then 1-1/2 and 3 years of age. An application filed with the Texas Employment Commission sought a live-in maid with one year's experience who would care for the two infant children, cook, wash and take care of the household during the hours from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon and 2:00 to 6:00 PM, 5 days each week day. The salary offered was $70 weekly (plus room and board) for a 40-hour week.

---

[1] A labor certification issued by the Secretary of Labor pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) to the effect that "there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified and available" at the place to which an alien is destined and that his employment will not adversely affect wages and working conditions is a prerequisite for an alien (other than a relative or refugee) who seeks an immigrant visa or permanent residence unless he establishes that he will not be employed. 8 C.F.R. 212.8.

Petitioner, Pesikoff, sought unsuccessfully to fill the job by advertising in the newspapers, registering with employment agencies, including the Texas Employment Service, by contacting friends and asking others for assistance.

The Texas Employment Commission reported on July 20, 1971, that no applicants were available for live-in work, that the prevailing wage for this occupation was $50.00 weekly plus room and board, that there were no adverse factors in connection with the job offer; that petitioner, Pesikoff, would accept referrals and that there were 48 persons actively seeking household help. The report stated further that:

> "There are approximately 180 Maids, General registered in the Local Office; there are also approximately 125 Dayworkers who are seeking work and are paid at the rate of $1.25 per hour but the Local Office states that 75% of Maids General and Dayworkers are working one to three days a week, but their application cards are kept active while they are seeking extra days to fill the week. *Many change jobs frequently and definitely are not interested in live-in work. Very few will accept jobs that require cooking.* In contacts with employers advertising in the newspapers for domestics, it is found that the response is fair, they find that *it is seldom they can find an applicant who is desirable or who can furnish valid references.*" (Underscoring supplied).

On this basis, but without elaboration and without furnishing the foregoing information to petitioners, the Regional Manpower Administration in Texas denied a labor

certification on July 28, 1971, with no finding other than the declaration:

"U.S. workers are available."

Upon appeal the decision was affirmed on September 8, 1971, by the Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator in Dallas, Texas with the following statement:

> "The job duties listed in the application for a live-in worker do not differ from those required of a dayworker. When the job duties and conditions of employment are those normally identified with dayworkers, the Department of Labor cannot grant certification of immigrant live-in workers.
>
> Based on the job described and the hours of work, the live-in requirement is a personal preference and not a necessity in the performance of the job.
>
> At the time of the employer's application, we were advised by the local office of the Texas Employment Commission that there were 180 qualified and available U.S. workers for the job offered the alien, but that none was willing to live-in."

In response to interrogatories in the District Court, respondent admitted that the foregoing report of the Texas Employment Commission of July 20, 1971, was the sole basis for the denial of the labor certification herein and in its brief in the Court of Appeals (p. 17) respondent stated with reference to this report:

> "As anyone who has dealt with state employment commissions knows, they are not a final and conclusive, nor even an efficient repository for information with regard to positions and employees available. They exist primarily to administer unemployment compensation programs."

The complaint herein alleges that the denial of a certification for a live-in maid was issued despite the shortage of such employees, that the domestic workers said to be available were neither qualified nor willing to perform the job duties, that there was a failure to make appropriate administrative findings, that the denial was not supported by evidence and was based upon unpublished rules. These allegations were undenied.

The respondent moved in the District Court to dismiss for failure to state a cause of action and alternatively for summary judgment. Petitioner cross moved for summary judgment. Without hearing oral argument or setting forth reasons, the District Court granted the motion to dismiss for failure to state a cause of action (App. D).

The Court of Appeals affirmed by a divided vote on May 3, 1974 (App. A). The Court ruled that petitioners had standing to litigate but that the respondent had adequate support for his denial of certification, that the live-in requirement was a personal preference, that in the absence of evidence that petitioner, Pesikoff, found it impossible to find a worker from the pool of workers described in the Texas Employment Commission report the denial was proper. The majority observed that petitioner, Pesikoff, could induce those already employed part time to transfer to full time work by offering a more attractive wage, that likewise he could persuade those who refused

to cook to do so by offering wages above those which prevailed. It further observed that the unpublished rules were interpretative and the failure to publish was of no consequence since petitioners could still request certification with both day and night work offered. Finally, it approved the conclusion that "if the report of the State Employment Service stood unimpeached, we could not conclude that the Secretary's refusal to certify the alien workers was 'arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion or otherwise not in accordance with law' ". [Citing *Secretary of Labor v. Farino*, 490 F.2d 885 (7th Cir., 1973].

The dissenting judge of the Court of Appeals concluded that the Texas Employment Commission report was impeached, that the live-in requirement was not a personal preference but was one recognized as reasonable by Department of Labor guidelines for those employees who work, have pre-school age children, and who would suffer hardship or need by reason of irregularity of attendance of day workers. The dissenting judge asserted that petitioners satisfied their burden of proof by seeking domestic workers through newspaper advertisements and employment agencies without success. Concluding, the dissent states:

> "Mindful of the fact that this case was dismissed on the pleadings by the District Court for failure to state a cause of action and that the record at the administrative level could fairly be termed barren, one arrives ineluctably at the conclusion that the majority has arrogated administrative and trial functions an appellate court was never intended to and does not possess. The result is that Dr. Pesikoff's request – and it is fairly humble –

that he be given the opportunity to prove the provable is spurned."

## REASONS FOR GRANTING THE PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI

1. The decision below is in conflict with other circuits both as to burden of proof and the sufficiency of state agency statistics to support a labor certification denial, absent proof and findings, in the terms of the statute [8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14)], that domestic workers are "willing, qualified and available." *Reddy, Inc. v. U.S. Department of Labor,* 492 F.2d 538 (5th Cir., 1974); *Secretary of Labor v. Farino,* 490 F.2d 885 (7th Cir., 1973); *First Girl, Inc. v. Regional Manpower Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Labor,* 361 F. Supp. 1339 (N.D. Ill., 1973), affirmed No. 73-2009, 7th Cir., July 2, 1974; *Digilab, Inc. v. Secretary of Labor,* 495 F.2d 323 (1st Cir., 1974), pending on certiorari filed June 20, 1974, No. 73-1904; *Ratnayake v. Mack* (No. 73-1865, 8th Cir., June 12, 1974).

The issue presented by labor certification denials, the procedures involved and their sufficiency has been the subject of Congressional, Labor Department and bar association[2] concern (*Hearings on H.R. 981,* House Committee on the Judiciary, 93rd Cong., 1st Sess., June 6 and 7, 1973, pp. 171, 172-235). The Administrative Conference of the United States (1972-1973 Report, p. 14) likewise has been critical of the Labor Department's failure to publish guidelines and its lack of record specificity upon which certifications are denied or granted. Present procedures

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[2] Section of Administrative Law of American Bar Association and the Association of Immigration and Nationality Lawyers.

which deny access to full information upon which denials are based, conceal guidelines, regulations and precedent decisions, prevent verification of statistics utilized as well as the existence (names and addresses) of available workers, and deny a real opportunity to present a case for certification take us back to the dark ages of administrative law and reflect one of the worst phases of today's federal bureaucracy.

The issue presented herein is a recurring one as the foregoing Court of Appeals decisions and as numerous district court cases indicate[3] and one of importance to the proper administration of our immigration laws. It deserves review by this Court.

2. The denial of a labor certification herein was based upon void unpublished regulations and was contrary to practices utilized in regional manpower districts other than Texas. The decision below is in conflict with *Lewis-Mota v. Secretary of Labor*, 469 F.2d 478, 482 (2d Cir., 1972) and *Texaco, Inc. v. Federal Power Commission*, 412 F.2d 740 (3rd Cir., 1969).

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[3] The Court of Appeals (App. A, note 9) acknowledged that its interpretation was in conflict with many recent District Court cases, including:

> *First Girl, Inc. v. Regional Manpower Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Labor*, 361 F. Supp. 1339 (N.D. Ill., 1973); *Digilab, Inc. v. Secretary of Labor*, 357 F. Supp. 941 (D. Mass., 1973); *Bitang v. Regional Manpower Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Labor*, 351 F. Supp. 1342 (D. Ill., 1972); *Golabek v. Regional Manpower Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Labor*, 329 F. Supp. 892 (E.D. Pa., 1971).

*Digilab, supra*, is presently before this Court (No. 73-1904); *First Girl, Inc., supra*, was affirmed by the Seventh Circuit on July 2, 1974 (No. 73-2009).

For almost 16 years after the enactment of 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) alien live-in maids were freely certified where American employers sought their services and were unable to obtain a live-in category of worker. In 1968, 25,419 alien private household workers were admitted to the United States.[4] On September 10, 1968, the Secretary of Labor issued a press release announcing that "Labor Department Moves to Curb Rising Tide of Alien Live-in Maids." He complained that "nearly 60% of all alien worker certifications issued by the U.S. Department of Labor for immigrants from the Western Hemisphere were for live-in maids." It was charged that there were some cases of fraud. New regulations were published requiring an alien live-in maid to prove one year of documented paid experience as a household domestic service worker on a live-in or live out basis. 33 F.R. 12810 (September 10, 1968). Thereafter, Field Memorandum No. 105-69 of July 9, 1969 and Field Memorandum No. 183-69 of October 10, 1969 were issued (but not published in the Federal Register). Both memoranda related solely to determinations of certification applications for domestic household service workers and stated that they were guidelines to "assure that regional offices make determinations that are consistent and reasonable." The memoranda specified that where adults who had pre-school age children were employed and duties include child care, "certification can be issued if it is ascertained that the job duties and hours are reasonable and that possible irregularity of attendance of dayworkers would create hardship." They further stated:

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[4] Annual Report 1970, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Table 10A.

> "Availability is not determined solely by applicants on file in a local office. Unemployment rates in the area, information from all community services, and results of recent telephone surveys must be weighed."

Bi-monthly "verification of the results of applicants' responses to employer advertisements for live-in domestics" was the telephone surveys to which reference was made.

Subject to the foregoing, the October 10, 1969, memorandum provided:

> "If there is availability of live-in workers, deny on availability. If there is no availability of live-in workers, and the combination of job duties and hours of work (such as 8 to 5 or 9 to 6) are usual for a live-out maid or dayworker and if these workers are available, deny on availability * * *."

Upon the basis of the above, a rule not published in the Federal Register, without considering the "possible irregularity of attendance of dayworkers" and the hardship it might cause and without evaluating or weighing the "results of recent telephone surveys," the Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator, on September 8, 1971, found the job offer herein "identified with dayworkers" and upon that basis affirmed the denial of certification.

Whether the memorandum of October 10, 1969, be considered an interpretative or legislative rule, 5 U.S.C. 552, 553, and 551(4) required publication. Where, as here, procedures regulating determinations of labor certifications have a "substantial impact both upon the alien and employers, notice and opportunity for comment by the public

should first be provided. *Lewis-Mota, et al. v. Secretary of Labor,* 469 F.2d 478 (2d Cir., 1972); *Texaco, Inc. v. Federal Power Commission,* 412 F.2d 740 (3rd Cir., 1969). Instructions to the field purporting to be authoritative declarations of policy must be published. *Piercy v. Tarr,* 343 F. Supp. 1120, 1128-9 (N.D. Calif., 1972). The failure to comply with 5 U.S.C. 552 and 553 rendered the unpublished Field Memorandum and the decision based thereon void. This failure to publish has been a matter of concern to and criticism by the Administrative Conference of the United States (1972-1973 Report, p. 14) and should be of concern to this Court. Moreover, the conflict of circuits should be resolved. In addition, the certification denial was issued in disregard of the Department's rules requiring that availability of domestic workers not be determined "solely by applicants on file in a local office" but that telephone surveys and other material be considered. The Department's rules, if valid, have a binding effect on the agency, *Service v. Dulles,* 354 U.S. 363 (1957); *Vitarelli v. Seaton,* 359 U.S. 535, 539-44 (1959); *Yellin v. United States,* 374 U.S. 109, 114 (1963); *U.S. ex rel. Accardi v. Shaughnessy,* 347 U.S. 260 (1954).

The telephone survey herein revealed as noted by the Texas Employment Commission on July 20, 1971, that:

> "In contacts with employers advertising in the newspapers for domestics, it is found that the response is fair, they find that it is seldom they can find an applicant who is desirable or who can furnish valid references."

The manner of determining (through telephone surveys) availability and willingness of domestic live-in workers to fill this type of job was stated by Robert J. Brown,

Associate Manpower Administrator, Department of Labor, as follows (Hearings on H.R. 981, *supra*, June 7, 1974, p. 215):

> "We determine whether or not employers are actually filling their job openings, and, if we find that they are filling their job openings at a reasonable rate of speed, then we assume that there are enough American workers; if they are unable to, then we determine there is a shortage."[5]
>
> * * *
>
> "We have a rule of thumb of 50-percent. If it is over 50-percent, we assume American workers are available."[6]

---

[5] The National Committee on Household Employment, Washington, D.C., reports that the number of household workers has decreased by almost one million in the last ten years. The Bureau of Labor Statistics, Bulletin 1701, Occupational Manpower and Training Needs (1971), p. 47, reports that there will be 121,000 annual openings for private household workers during 1970-1980.

The Occupational Outlook Quarterly, Vol. 14, No. 3, fall 1970, p. 24 of the Department of Labor, states:

> "Although employment opportunities for private household workers are expected to be excellent through the 1970's, the low social status and wages associated with this work will cause the supply of people seeking jobs in domestic employment to continue to lag far behind demand.

[6] The 50 percent rule requires a finding of a shortage of domestic workers where more than 50 percent of advertisers who have been contacted by telephone are found unable to effectuate a hire in response to advertising efforts.

Judged by the foregoing standards, there was lack of availability and a shortage in the instant case since employers in Houston, Texas were "seldom able to find desirable workers." The adoption of one standard for determining labor certifications in Texas and a different standard nationally is arbitrary and an abuse of discretion. *Del Mundo v. Rosenberg,* 341 F. Supp. 345 (D.C.C.D. Calif., 1972); *Head Moving and Storage Co. v. United States,* 298 F. Supp. 746 (D.C. Hawaii, 1969).

3. The majority decision below, as the dissent observed (App. A, p. 30a), "arrogated administrative and trial functions an appellate court was never intended to and does not possess." It fails to conform to the well accepted principles enunciated by this Court that the issues for judicial review of an agency's action are the issues decided by the agency. *S.E.C. v. Chenery Corp.*, 318 U.S. 194, 196 (1943); *Burlington Truck Lines v. United States,* 371 U.S. 156, 159 (1962).

Administratively, it was found that the prevailing wage was $50.00 weekly plus room and board and that petitioner, Pesikoff, offered $70.00 weekly plus room and board. Nevertheless, the Court of Appeals ruled that petitioner Pesikoff by offering additional compensation might have recruited among those who worked part time and induced maids unwilling to cook to perform such duties. Although the administrators did not require petitioner, Pesikoff, to prove it was impossible to find an appropriate worker from the pool of general maids and day workers, the Court of Appeals faulted him for this alleged failure. Finally, the Court states that Pesikoff "does not even represent that he made any attempt to contact the maids registered at the office" of the Texas Employment Commission. The record reveals that Pesikoff requested

assistance from the Commission and agreed to accept referrals. Moreover, Pesikoff was not made aware of the pool of workers until the final administrative denial herein. And, as appears from *Secretary of Labor v. Farino,* 490 F.2d 885, 893 (7th Cir., 1973), under current practices and regulations of the Department of Labor and its construction of the Freedom of Information Act [5 U.S.C. 552(b)] the names and addresses of persons constituting such available pool will not be furnished to petitioners. They were therefore prevented from demonstrating whether it was not possible to obtain workers from such pool. Petitioners should have been permitted to establish as alleged in their complaint, that they could not obtain a domestic service worker to care and cook for Pesikoff's children and household and that the domestic workers said to be available were neither qualified nor willing to perform the job duties. These allegations of the complaint were undenied.

The opinion below is also in conflict with the principle that the District Court rather than the Court of Appeals should have initially reviewed the administrative record conducted a substantial inquiry to determine whether the administrative decision was "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law." *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park v. Volpe,* 401 U.S. 402, 413-416 (1971); *Secretary of Labor v. Farino,* 490 F.2d 885, 889 (7th Cir., 1973). Here, the District Court dismissed the complaint for failure to state a cause of action and the review contemplated by *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park* was conducted by the Court of Appeals without benefit of affidavits, discovery and other materials, petitioners could have submitted. This procedure was followed in *Farino* but not here.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the conflict of decision between circuits, the conflict with decisions of this Court, and the importance of the issues presented, the petition for a writ of certiorari should be granted.

JACK WASSERMAN
WASSERMAN, ORLOW, KAYE & RUBIN
1707 H Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20006
*Attorneys for Petitioners*

BENJAMIN M. PARKER, ESQ.
MARK A. MANCINI, ESQ.
*Of Counsel:*

## APPENDIX A

Notice: This opinion is subject to formal revision before publication in the Federal Reporter or U.S. App. D.C. Reports. Users are requested to notify the Clerk of any formal errors in order that corrections may be made before the bound volumes go to press.

# United States Court of Appeals

FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

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No. 72-2206

RICHARD B. PESIKOFF *et al.*, APPELLANTS

v.

THE SECRETARY OF LABOR

---

Appeal from the United States District Court
for the District of Columbia

---

Decided May 3, 1974

*Jack Wasserman*, with whom *Benjamin M. Parker* was on the brief, for appellants.

*Richard I. Chaifetz*, Attorney, Department of Justice, with whom *Harold H. Titus, Jr.*, United States Attorney at the time the brief was filed, was on the brief, for appellee.

Before WRIGHT, ROBINSON and MACKINNON, *Circuit Judges.*

Opinion for the court filed by *Circuit Judge* WRIGHT.

Opinion concurring in part and dissenting in part filed by *Circuit Judge* MACKINNON.

WRIGHT, *Circuit Judge*: Appellants seek review of a decision of the Secretary of Labor denying certification for appellant Quintero to enter the United States as an alien seeking to perform skilled or unskilled labor. Appellants filed in the District Court a complaint requesting, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2201 (1970) and 5 U.S.C. § 704 (1970), a declaratory judgment that the Secretary's decision was an unlawful exercise of his authority under Section 212(a)(14) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(14) (1970). The District Court dismissed the complaint for failure to state a cause of action, and this appeal followed. We find that the Secretary, in declining to grant certification, did not abuse the discretion vested in him by Section 212(a)(14) and affirm.

I

Appellant Pesikoff is a Houston child psychologist. His wife was a law student when this action was commenced. They are the parents of two preschool-age children. Because of the time demands on him and his wife, Dr. Pesikoff felt it important that he obtain help in caring for his household. He states he attempted to find such assistance through newspaper advertisements, employment agencies, and inquiries with friends. He learned from the latter source that appellant Quintero, a citizen of Mexico with experience in caring for children, was available to work as a live-in maid. Dr. Pesikoff entered into a contract with Ms. Quintero under which she was to be paid $70 per week plus room and board for providing washing, ironing, cooking, and care for the two Pesikoff children. Though Ms. Quintero was to live in, Dr. Pesikoff represented to the Secretary that her work day was to have been only from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

On or about July 20, 1971 appellants submitted a request to the Department of Labor that the Secretary,

pursuant to Section 212(a)(14), certify Ms. Quintero for immigration into this country for the purpose of being employed by the Pesikoffs as a live-in maid. Section 212(a)(14) provides for exclusion from the United States of:

> Aliens seeking to enter the United States for the purpose of performing skilled or unskilled labor, unless the Secretary of Labor has determined and certified to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General that (A) there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, and available at the time of application for a visa and admission to the United States and at the place to which the alien is destined to perform such skilled or unskilled labor, and (B) the employment of such aliens will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of the workers in the United States similarly employed. * * *

8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(14). A Department of Labor Manpower Administration officer in Dallas, Texas, to whom the Secretary's authority under this provision had been delegated, informed Dr. Pesikoff on July 28, 1971 that the Secretary could not issue for Ms. Quintero the certification required by Section 212(a)(14) because available job market information did not show that United States workers were unavailable for the job Ms. Quintero was to perform. Before denying Dr. Pesikoff's request the certifying officer had been advised by the Texas Employment Commission that there were approximately 180 maids registered in the Commission's Houston office. The Employment Commission also advised that inquiries of employers and perusals of newspaper advertisements enabled it to estimate that in excess of 100 maids were available for work. The Commission indicated, however, that very few of the registered workers would accept jobs that required cooking and that none were willing to live in.

In affirming the certifying officer's decision, the Labor Department's Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator in Texas cited the Employment Commission's report on the general availability of maids in Houston. The Administrator stated that the absence in Houston of maids willing to live in was irrelevant to the Pesikoff application because "based on the job described and hours of work, the live-in requirement is a personal preference and not a necessity in the performance of the job." In March 1972 appellants filed in the District Court their complaint against the Secretary, dismissal of which we now review.

II

The Secretary contends that we must affirm the dismissal because both appellant Pesikoff and appellant Quintero lack standing to challenge denial of Section 212 (a)(14) certification. Inasmuch as we hold that Dr. Pesikoff, as the prospective employer of the alien for whom certification was sought, does have standing and because Dr. Pesikoff and Ms. Quintero have jointly sought judicial review, it is not necessary for us to consider whether Ms. Quintero, as an alien outside the country, may also challenge denial of her certification.

The Supreme Court has held that Section 10(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act [1] confers standing to obtain review of administrative actions upon those parties who allege "that the challenged action had caused them [an] 'injury in fact,' * * * to an interest 'arguably within the zone of interests to be protected or regulated' by the statutes that the agencies were claimed to have

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[1] Section 10(a), 5 U.S.C. § 702 (1970), provides:

> A person suffering legal wrong because of agency action, or adversely affected or aggrieved by agency action within the meaning of a relevant statute, is entitled to judicial review thereof.

violated." *Sierra Club* v. *Morton*, 405 U.S. 727, 733 (1972). *See Assn of Data Processing Service Organizations* v. *Camp*, 397 U.S. 150 (1970); *Barlow* v. *Collins*, 397 U.S. 159 (1970); *United States* v. *Students Challenging Regulatory Agency Procedures*, 412 U.S. 669, 686-690 (1973). An application of the Supreme Court's principles of standing to this case generates our conclusion that Dr. Pesikoff may seek judicial review of Ms. Quintero's certification denial. First, if Dr. Pesikoff is correct in alleging that he cannot find an American worker who is able to perform the domestic tasks which Ms. Quintero has contracted to perform, he has clearly suffered an "injury in fact" by the certification denial, for the Secretary's certification is a necessary precondition for Ms. Quintero to enter the United States to work for Dr. Pesikoff. Second, this injury is to an interest—that of American employers in obtaining qualified employees —arguably within the zone of interests to be protected or regulated by Section 212(a)(14). The section on its face suggests a congressional accommodation between this employer interest and the interest of American workers in being protected from importation of foreign labor which could affect their wages and working conditions or even eliminate their jobs. Though this accommodation takes the form of regulation of the employer's pursuit of his interest and the regulation subordinates this pursuit to the protection of American workers, the employer's need for qualified workers is clearly not ignored by the section.[2]

The Secretary bases his claim that prospective employers such as Dr. Pesikoff lack standing to invoke judicial review of his exercise of Section 212(a)(14) authority on three cases: *Braude* v. *Wirtz*, 9 Cir., 350 F.2d 702 (1965); *Cobb* v. *Murrell*, 5 Cir., 386 F.2d 947

[2] The legislative history offers support for this description of the statute. *See* note 8 and text at note 8 *infra*.

(1967); *Intercontinental Placement Service, Inc.* v. *Shultz*, 3 Cir., 461 F.2d 222 (1972). None of these cases gives us pause. The *Braude* and *Cobb* courts did decline to grant standing to prospective employers to challenge certification denials, but these decisions were entered prior to the Supreme Court's liberalizing clarification of standing in *Data Processing* and *Barlow*, *supra*. The *Braude* and *Cobb* courts employed the old strict "legal right" test in applying Section 10(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act; since *Data Processing* and *Barlow* this test has been superseded by the two-step "injury in fact"—"zone of interests" analysis utilized above.[3] The Secretary's third case, *Intercontinental Placement Service (IPS)*, was decided after *Data Processing* and *Barlow* and indeed relied on the two-step analysis which they established. The *IPS* court relied on this analysis, however, to deny standing to an employment agency which locates positions for aliens with American employers. Though we do not necessarily concur in the *IPS* court's holding, we note that our grant of standing to a prospective employer need not conflict with that court's denial of standing to an employment agency for aliens.

We note finally that our grant of standing to Dr. Pesikoff is given direct support by *Secretary of Labor* v. *Farino*, 7 Cir., 490 F.2d 885 (1973), decided the day after oral argument in our case. The *Farino* court, ap-

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[3] A close reading of the *Braude* and *Cobb* decisions reveals that their conclusions on standing were heavily influenced by the notion that the Secretary's determinations under § 212(a)(14) are not subject to any judicial review. The Secretary makes no claim here that his § 212(a)(14) authority is unreviewable. In view of the Supreme Court's interpretation of § 10 of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. § 701 (1970), in *Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, Inc.* v. *Volpe*, 401 U.S. 402 (1971), any such claim would in any case be without merit. *See Secretary of Labor* v. *Farino*, 7 Cir., 490 F.2d 885 (1973).

plying the "injury in fact"—"zone of interests" analysis, held that prospective employers have standing to seek review of denials of Section 212(a)(14) certifications.[4]

III

Having resolved the threshold standing issue in favor of appellant Pesikoff, we turn to the merits of his challenge to the Secretary's denial of Ms. Quintero's certification. Dr. Pesikoff asserts that the Secretary's denial constituted an abuse of his discretion under Section 212(a)(14) because it was based on insufficient evidence.[5] More specifically, Dr. Pesikoff argues that the Secretary should have presented evidence sufficient to prove that there were particular workers available, willing, able, and qualified to perform all the tasks Ms. Quintero had contracted to perform and to live in with the Pesikoffs while doing so.

Our evaluation of Dr. Pesikoff's position must commence with an analysis of the section and its legislative history. We first stress that the section is written so as to set up a presumption that aliens should not be permitted to enter the United States for the purpose of performing labor because of the likely harmful impact of their admission on American workers. This presumption, the statutory language makes clear, can be overcome only if the Secretary of Labor has determined that the two conditions set forth in parts (A) and (B) of the sub-

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[4] *See also First Girl, Inc.* v. *Regional Manpower Administrator of U.S. Dept. of Labor*, N.D. Ill., 361 F.Supp. 1339 (1973) (*sub silentio* grant of standing to prospective employer).

[5] In order to reverse the Secretary's denial of certification, § 10(e)(2)(A) of the APA, 5 U.S.C. § 706(2)(A) (1970), requires us to find that the denial was "arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law." *See Secretary of Labor* v. *Farino*, *supra* note 3, 490 F.2d at 889-890. *See also Citizens to Preserve Overton Park, Inc.* v. *Volpe*, *supra* note 3, 401 U.S. at 416.

section are met.[6] This structuring of the statute strongly indicates that the Secretary is not obligated to prove in the case of every alien seeking entry to perform labor that the conditions are not met. Given the presumption of the statute against admission, if the Secretary's consultation of the general labor market data readily available to him suggests that there is a pool of potential workers available to perform the job which the alien seeks, the burden should be placed on the alien or his putative employer to prove that it is not possible for the employer to find a qualified American worker.

This interpretation of the statute is supported by its legislative history. Before enactment of the 1965 amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act, Section 212(a)(14) was structured to permit entry to aliens seeking to perform labor in the United States unless the Secretary of Labor certified that there were sufficient American workers available to perform such labor or that the employment of the aliens would adversely affect the wages and working conditions of American workers.[7] The Senate and House reports on the 1965 amendments to the Act make clear that Congress, by restructuring Section 212(a)(14) to exclude such aliens unless the Secretary certified that there were *not* sufficient American workers available, intended to reverse the prior presumption favoring admission to strengthen the protection of the American labor market and to reduce the burden

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[6] Those conditions are, again:

> (A) there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, and available * * *, and (B) the employment of such aliens will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of the workers in the United States similarly employed.

8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(14) (1970).

[7] Act of June 27, 1952, ch. 477, § 212(a)(14), 66 STAT. 183.

on the Secretary in implementing this protection.[8] Moreover, Senator Kennedy, who played a major role in shepherding the 1965 amendments through Congress, stated on the Senate floor:

> Under [the old] procedure, the Secretary certifies that aliens falling under certain occupational or skill definitions should be excluded because they will threaten domestic employment. The new bill reverses this procedure. *It places the burden of proving no adverse effect on the applying alien.* The intending immigrant must receive a certificate from

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[8] The Senate report stated:

> Simultaneous with the abolition of national quotas, controls to protect the American labor market from an influx of both skilled and unskilled foreign labor are strengthened. * * * [T]he provision of existing law * * * has the effect of excluding any intending immigrant within the scope of the certification who would likely displace a qualified American worker or whose employment in the United States would adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers similarly employed in the United States. Under the instant bill, this procedure is substantially changed. The primary responsibility is placed upon the intending immigrant to obtain the Secretary of Labor's clearance prior to the issuance of a visa establishing (1) that there are not sufficient workers in the United States at the alien's destination who are able, willing, and qualified to perform the skilled or unskilled labor and (2) that the employment of the alien will not adversely affect wages and working conditions of U.S. citizens similarly employed. * * *

S. Rep. No. 748, 89th Cong., 1st Sess., 15 (1965). The House report stated:

> The amended section 212(a)(14) represents a substantial departure from existing law. * * * [P]rocedure is reversed under the amendment. Responsibility is placed upon the intending immigrant to obtain the Secretary of Labor's clearance prior to issuance of a visa. * * *

H.R. Rep. No. 745, 89th Cong., 1st Sess., 14 (1965).

> the Secretary of Labor that his presence will not affect U.S. employment, wages, or working conditions.

111 CONG. REC. (Part 18) 24227 (1965) (emphasis added).

In light of our interpretation of Section 212(a)(14) and the legislative history supporting this interpretation,[9] we conclude that the Secretary's denial of Ms. Quintero's certification did not constitute an abuse of discretion. First, we find proper the Secretary's treatment of Dr. Pesikoff's live-in requirement for his maid as a personal preference irrelevant to determination of whether there was in Houston a pool of potential workers willing to perform the Pesikoffs' domestic tasks. If the Secretary were required to find an individual American worker who met all the personal specifications of the prospective employer of each alien seeking Section 212(a)(14) certification, the burden on him in performing his statutory duty to protect the American labor market would be much greater than Congress intended in passing the 1965 amendments to the Act. It is well within the Secretary's discretion to ignore employer specifications which he deems, in accordance with his labor market expertise, to be irrelevant to the basic job which the employer desires performed.[10] The Secretary may, therefore, survey the available labor market for a class of workers who, while possibly not

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[9] We are aware that some recent District Court cases make a contrary interpretation of the statute. *See First Girl, Inc.* v. *Regional Manpower Administrator of U.S. Dept. of Labor*, *supra* note 4; *Digilab, Inc.* v. *Secretary of Labor*, D. Mass., 357 F.Supp. 941 (1973); *Bitang* v. *Regional Manpower Administrator of U.S. Dept. of Labor*, N.D. Ill., 351 F.Supp. 1342 (1972); *Golabek* v. *Regional Manpower Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Labor*, E.D. Pa., 329 F.Supp. 892 (1971).

[10] "The labor certification procedure was not designed to cater to the personal quirks of an employer * * *." *Ozbirman* v. *Regional Manpower Administrator, U.S. Dept. of Labor*, S.D. N.Y., 335 F.Supp. 467, 474 (1971).

meeting the prospective employer's personalized job description, do provide the employer with the potential for getting his job accomplished. The Secretary's treatment and classification of Dr. Pesikoff's employee request as one for a general maid who could live in or out was an appropriate exercise of the above described discretion. Dr. Pesikoff's statement to the Labor Department that Ms. Quintero would work only from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. indicates that her need to live in is not significantly different from that of millions of American workers who reliably and adequately perform their duties without living at their employment site.

We think the Secretary's treatment of Dr. Pesikoff's live-in preference was appropriate for an additional reason. As set forth above, Section 212(a)(14) provides that in order to grant an alien labor certification the Secretary must determine, not only that there are not American workers available, but also that employment of the alien will not adversely affect American wages and working conditions. The Secretary could well predict that the wages and working conditions of American maids would be adversely affected if Americans seeking domestic help could import, at the prevailing wage for live-out daily maids, aliens to work as live-in maids who are almost continuously on call. There is nothing in the record which moves us to question Dr. Pesikoff's representation that Ms. Quintero would have limited working hours. However, if the Secretary were to deem relevant to his survey of the available American work force a live-in preference of an employer who represents that his maid will work limited daytime hours, an American employer intending to work an alien at least intermittently around the clock could, by simple misrepresentation, defeat one of the primary purposes of Section 212

(a)(14).[11] Our analysis above of the section and its legislative history indicates that the Secretary has discretion to protect the American labor market against such employers with prophylactic procedures such as the employer personal preference disposition he made here.[12]

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[11] The likelihood of such misrepresentation is especially significant where, as here, the domestic employer has small children whose demands for attention do not observe limitations on working hours.

[12] Dr. Pesikoff makes a subsidiary argument that the Secretary's certification denial must be overturned because it was based on an internal Labor Department field memorandum which directs the Secretary's delegates to deny certification to aliens seeking live-in maid work which could be performed by available American live-out maids or dayworkers. Dr. Pesikoff's complaint alleges that this directive constitutes an agency rule which is invalid because it was not published in the Federal Register. Dr. Pesikoff bases his position on two sections of the APA: 5 U.S.C. §§ 552 & 553 (1970). Neither section gives him any aid.

Section 553 requires federal agencies to provide notice of proposed rule-making in the Federal Register and an opportunity for interested persons to comment on the proposed rules. "Interpretive rules" are exempted from these requirements, 5 U.S.C. § 553(b)(3)(A), however, and the Secretary's directive challenged here is such an interpretive rule. Interpretive rules, unlike the *quasi*-legislative rules which are subject to the prescriptions of § 553, are merely an agency's interpretation of a statute it is charged with implementing and create no law or have no effect beyond that of the statute. *American President Lines, Ltd.* v. *FMC*, 114 U.S. App.D.C. 418, 420-421, 316 F.2d 419, 421-422 (1963); *Gibson Wine Co.* v. *Snyder*, 90 U.S.App.D.C. 135, 137-138, 194 F.2d 329, 331-332 (1952); 1 K. DAVIS, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW TREATISE § 5.03 (1958). Here the Secretary did not attempt to argue that the internal memorandum has any more legal force than does § 212(a)(14) directly. He denied Ms. Quintero's certification and argued to us that this denial was proper without ever making reference to the internal memorandum.

The notice requirements of § 552, the public information provision of the APA, are applicable to interpretive rules;

Given our conclusion that the Secretary's treatment of Dr. Pesikoff's live-in preference was proper and our analysis of Section 212(a)(14), we have no difficulty in finding the Secretary had adequate support for his denial of certification. The Secretary, prior to that denial, had been informed by the Texas Employment Commission that it estimated from independent sources that in excess of 100 workers were available for general maid work in Houston and that 180 workers were registered as maids at the Commission's Houston office. To be sure, the Employment Commission in its report to the Secretary

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federal agencies are to publish in the Federal Register "statements of general policy or interpretations of general applicability." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(1)(D). However, the Secretary's failure to make such publication of his field memorandum gives no relief to Dr. Pesikoff. Section 552 states that "[e]xcept to the extent that a person has actual and timely notice of the terms thereof, a person may not in any manner be required to resort to, or be adversely affected by, a matter required to be published in the Federal Register and not so published." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(1)(E). Dr. Pesikoff was not adversely affected by not learning of the internal memorandum before this litigation, assuming such a late awareness. He would have stood in no better stead if he had had notice of the internal memorandum before filing his request for Ms. Quintero's certification. If he desires to avoid the memorandum's directive, he can still request certification by representing that Ms. Quintero will work both day and night although, as stressed in text, such a representation would suggest an adverse impact on American working conditions. Indeed, in view of the Secretary's lack of reference to the memorandum in his statement of denial and our finding that the statute directly supported his treatment of the live-in preference, we cannot say that the Pesikoffs were affected by the memorandum at all. Appellants' position would not be advanced if we held the Secretary's general statement of policy as to the matters contained in the challenged internal memorandum to be completely void and without effect. *Compare Lewis-Mota* v. *Secretary of Labor*, 2 Cir., 469 F.2d 478, 482 (1972).

stated that a majority of the registered maids were already employed on a part-time basis [13] and that very few were willing to cook.[14] We think, however, that the general data provided the Secretary by the Commission offered sufficient evidence of a pool of potential workers to support certification denial, at least in the absence of any evidence offered by Dr. Pesikoff or Ms. Quintero proving it was impossible to find an appropriate worker in this pool.[15] Dr. Pesikoff apparently did not attempt to offer any such evidence to the Secretary, and he suggests to us no evidence he could offer on remand. He does not even represent that he made any attempt to contact the maids registered at the office. We think it clear that Congress did not intend Section 212(a)(14) to create an employment placement office in the Department of Labor; there is no onus on the Secretary to provide personal preference employers like Dr. Pesikoff with personal preference qualified American workers.

*Affirmed.*

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[13] Although the Pesikoffs of course wanted a maid to work a full week, we take note of the fact that many part-time laborers seize an opportunity to transfer into a full-time position, at least when the pay is sufficient.

[14] The Secretary of course might well have reasoned within his expertise that the number of maids willing to cook would be significantly increased if they were offered wages above the level prevailing in Houston for general maids.

[15] "If the report of the State Employment Service stood unimpeached, we could not conclude that the Secretary's refusal to certify the alien workers was 'arbitrary, capricious, an abuse of discretion, or otherwise not in accordance with law.'" *Secretary of Labor* v. *Farino*, *supra* note 3, 490 F.2d at 891.

MACKINNON, *Circuit Judge*, concurring in part and dissenting in part: This case arises on appeal from an order of the district court dismissing under Rule 12(b)(6) a complaint for declaratory judgment under 28 U.S.C. § 2201 (1970) and for review under section 10(c) of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. § 704 (1970)) of the denial of a request for a labor certification by the Secretary of Labor. I would reverse.

I.

Appellant Pesikoff is a child psychiatrist in Houston, Texas. At the time this action was commenced his wife was a law student and they had two children, aged two and four. The Pesikoffs felt it "mandatory that [they] obtain live-in domestic help, because of [their] busy professional schedules, to assist [them] with the children and the house."[1] Dr. Pesikoff made extensive efforts to obtain such help through newspaper advertisements, employment agencies and the assistance of friends. He learned that appellant Quintero, a native and citizen of Mexico, was qualified and willing to accept such employment and he accordingly applied on her behalf for the labor certification necessary to admit her to the United States. The application was denied on July 28, 1971 by the certifying officer and his decision was affirmed on appeal by an Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator on September 8, 1971. In March 1972 appellants filed their complaint against the Secretary, the dismissal of which gives rise to this appeal.

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[1] Letter to Texas Employment Commission, July 15, 1971, Jt. App. at 9. Application for Alien Employment—Job Offer for Alien Employment.

## II

The two central issues [2] raised on this appeal are, first, whether appellants have standing to contest the Secretary's determination under the applicable statute, and second, whether the Secretary's denial of certification can be sustained on the merits. The inquiry begins, of course, with section 212(a)(14) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (the Act), which provides in relevant part:

> (a) *General classes.*
>
> Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following classes of aliens shall be ineligible to receive visas and shall be excluded from admission into the United States:
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> * * * *
>
> (14) Aliens seeking to enter the United States for the purpose of performing skilled or unskilled labor, unless the Secretary of Labor has determined and certified to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General that (A) there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, and available at the time of application for a visa and admission to the United States and at the place to which the alien is destined to perform such skilled or unskilled labor, and (B) the employment of such

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[2] The Secretary properly concedes that his determinations under section 212(a)(14) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(14) (1970), are subject to judicial review, arguing only that such review must be narrowly limited to inquiry into possible abuse of discretion or clear error of law. Secretary's Br. at 7. Although the Secretary should and does possess considerable discretion in determinations made under section 212(a)(14), that section does state readily perceivable and applicable law against which his decisions can be measured. *See* Citizens to Preserve Overton Park v. Volpe, 401 U.S. 402 (1971). Therefore, while investing him with discretionary authority, section 212(a)(14)'s mandate to the Secretary falls short of the insulating "committed to agency discretion" language of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. § 701(a) (1970)).

aliens will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of the workers in the United States similarly employed.

8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(14) (1970).

A. *Standing*

I concur with the majority that a prospective employer of an alien worker has standing to contest the denial of a labor certificate under subsection (a)(14).[3] Section 10(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. § 702 (1970)) grants standing to seek judicial review of agency action to any person adversely affected or aggrieved by such action within the meaning of a relevant statute. Based upon the two step analysis established by *Association of Data Processing Service Organizations, Inc. v. Camp*, 397 U.S. 150 (1970) and *Barlow v. Collins*, 397 U.S. 159 (1970), it is my conclusion that Dr. Pesikoff has standing to bring the instant action. First, he has suffered "injury in fact" through the denial of entry to an alien he wishes to employ in circumstances which suggest the probability that he will be unable to find an acceptable substitute. Second, his interests as a prospective employer of an alien worker are "arguably within the zone of interests to be protected or regulated by" subsection (a)(14), since a review of the legislative history of this subsection demonstrates that it was intended to protect the jobs of American workers from inexpensive foreign labor through the regulation of certain employment practices of American employers.[4]

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[3] In view of the disposition I would make herein I do not find it necessary to determine whether appellant Quintero, as a nonresident alien, has standing to bring this action.

[4] Although the dominant theme of section 212(a)(14) is the protection of the American laborer, it seeks simultaneously to accommodate the employer's interest in securing

In *Secretary of Labor v. Farino*, 490 F.2d 885 (7th Cir. 1973), decided the day after oral argument in this case, it was held that employers of aliens who required

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sufficient labor. Thus, section 212(a)(14) regulates an employment practice formerly regulated by

> the alien contract labor law, which became effective February 26, 1885, and was aimed at the practice of certain employers importing cheap labor from abroad. This importation practice began in 1869. Advertisements were printed offering inducements to immigrants to proceed to this country, particularly to the coal fields, for employment. Many advertisements asserted that several hundred men were needed in places where there were actually no vacancies. The object was to oversupply the demand for labor so that the domestic laborers would be forced to work at reduced wages.
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> These abuses came to the attention of Congress about 1884. The House Committee on Labor found that the evils complained of by labor organizations existed to an alarming extent.
>
> The alien contract labor law made it unlawful to import aliens or assist in importation or migration of aliens into the United States, its Territories, or the District of Columbia under contract, made previous to the importation or migration, for the performance of labor or service of any kind in the United States. The law made such contracts void and provided certain penalties.

H.R. REP. No. 1365, 82d Cong., 2d Sess. 12-13 (1952) (footnote omitted).

The legislative history of section 212(a)(14) firmly establishes a strong congressional intent

> to protect the American labor market from an influx of both skilled and unskilled foreign labor . . . who would likely displace a qualified American worker or whose employment in the United States would adversely affect the wages and working conditions of workers similarly employed in the United States.

S. REP. No. 748, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. 15 (1965). In 1965 section 212(a)(14) was amended to its present form to deny

labor certification under section 212(a)(14) had standing to seek review of denials of such certifications under APA section 10(a). There, the section 212(a)(14) certifications were necessary to obtain sixth preference visas for aliens apparently already in the United States so that they could continue their employment. *Farino*, also relying on the trend toward more liberalized rules of standing marked by *Data Processing* and *Barlow*, *supra*,[7] stated that the aliens' employers had standing because

> [i]t is clear that these plaintiffs have adequately alleged that they will be economically injured if not permitted to employ these aliens. Further, the legislative history makes clear that Section 1182(a)(14) was substituted for, and intended to fulfill the purpose of, the pre-existing "contract labor clauses." House Report No. 1365, 82d Cong., 2d Sess., 1952 U.S. Code Cong. and Adm. News pp. 1653, 1661-1662, 1705. Thus potential employers of aliens are within the zone of interests to be regulated.

490 F.2d at 889.

B. *The "Personal Preference" Characterization*

Aliens shall be denied entry into the United States for employment purposes unless the Secretary affirmatively determines that there are no "able, willing, qualified, and available" American workers. Act § 212(a)

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entry to aliens absent the affirmative finding by the Secretary that the section's stated conditions were satisfied. Although characterized as a "substantial change" in existing law, *id.*, the amendment more aptly could be termed a radical shift in procedure.

[7] I agree with the majority of this court and with the Seventh Circuit that the cases cited by the Secretary for the proposition that prospective employers of aliens lack standing in certification denial cases are no longer tenable in light of recent developments in the law of standing. *Farino*, 490 F.2d at 889.

(14), 8 U.S.C. § 1182(a)(14). Applications for a labor certificate must be decided on an individual basis and the Secretary is required by regulation to consider the findings of state employment agencies in reaching his decision. 29 C.F.R. § 60.3 (1973). The Secretary also may conduct an independent investigation but there is no evidence as to whether one was made in this case. Thus the facts on which the denial of certification was based must be considered to be solely those supplied by the Texas Employment Commission to the Secretary:[6]

> [There are] approximately 180 Maids [and] approximately 125 Dayworkers . . . 75% . . . are working one to three days a week, but . . . are seeking extra days to fill the week. Many change jobs frequently and definitely are not interested in live-in work. Very few will accept jobs that require cooking. [Employers] find that it is seldom they can find an applicant who is desirable, or who can furnish valid references.

The labor certificate was denied in this case on the basis that there were American workers available.[7] The Sec-

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[6] Exhibit ES-575 Transmittal Memorandum, July 20, 1971. It should also be noted that the letter affirming denial of certification referred only to information supplied to the Secretary by the state commission:

> At the time of the employer's application, we were advised by the local office of the Texas Employment Commission that there were 180 qualified and available U.S. workers for the job offered the alien, but that none was willing to live-in.

Letter to Jack Wasserman, counsel for appellants, from Sam W. King, Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator, September 8, 1971.

[7] Section 212(a)(14) requires more than a finding that American workers are "available," for the statute speaks in terms of "able, willing, qualified, and available" workers. *See* First Girl, Inc. v. Regional Manpower Administrator of the U.S. Dept. of Labor, 361 F. Supp. 1339 (N.D. Ill. 1973). I am unwilling perfunctorily to assume that the "available"

retary argues that (1) the Pesikoffs would only require the maid to work from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and from 2:00 to 6:00 P.M., (2) a day, non-live-in maid could fulfill this requirement adequately, and therefore, (3) their desire for a live-in maid was only a personal preference the denial of which was not an abuse of the Secretary's discretion.[8]

The pivotal issue is the reasonableness of the personal preference characterization,[9] for it is clear that no work-

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workers to which the Secretary refers are necessarily also "able, willing, [and] qualified."

[8] The initial denial by the Certifying Officer simply stated that "U.S. workers are available"; this was amplified on appeal by the Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator:

> The job duties listed in the application for a live-in worker do not differ from those required of a day-worker. When the job duties and conditions of employment are those normally identified with dayworkers, the Department of Labor can not grant certification for employment of immigrant live-in workers.
>
> Based on the job described and the hours of work, the live-in requirement is a personal preference and not a necessity in the performance of the job.

Letter, *supra* note 6.

The Secretary's delegate limited the set of available workers to the 180 maids (Letter, *supra* note 6), but 75 per cent or 135 of these were already working one to three days per week. Since it is not unreasonable for the Pesikoffs to want the same maid to work and care for their young children throughout the week, the available workers must be reduced to 45. Of these, "very few" will cook and "seldom" do they have valid references; moreover, there are about 48 employers competing for these few remaining applicants. Report of Texas Employment Commission, Commission, Complaint, Exhibit A. *See* note 7 *supra.*

[9] At least as a general proposition the personal preference rule appears to be a rational implementation of the Act's purpose to protect the jobs of American workers. *See* note 4

ers would accept live-in employment and that the certification accordingly would have to be granted if Dr. Pesikoff's desire for a live-in maid was something more than merely a "personal preference." The majority opinion finds the personal preference characterization in this case to be valid and dispositive. In reaching this conclusion, however, the majority has failed to correlate elements of the characterization with any support in the record. It is submitted that this is fundamental error and disregards a basic precept of judicial review. The approach thus taken allows the majority freely to dispense with any remand to the Secretary and avoids the opportunity to enunciate standards to govern both the instant and future cases in this area. A remand to the Secretary in this case would be particularly appropriate because prior cases have been dismissed for lack of standing. No person had standing to contest the Secretary's determinations under prior law and therefore he was free to act as he pleased. We should now set forth, so far as the facts of this case permit, standards that would inform and structure the Secretary's decisional process and, concomitantly, assure intelligent judicial review of future decisions.[10]

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*supra*. Where such special circumstances as those discussed in the text following note 11, *infra*, do not obtain, the advantages of a live-in maid over a dayworker are only marginal and thus not sufficient to offset the legislatively mandated objective of preserving employment for American workers.

[10] In addition to the factors discussed in the text following this footnote, the Secretary should implement procedures designed to produce a record at the administrative level of sufficient substance to permit responsible judicial review. Such a procedure might include such things as an opportunity for the employer to present documentation of his efforts to secure a suitable employee, oral or written submissions, and, in general terms, provide an employer with a reasonable opportunity to present such arguments or explanations as would tend to refute the factual or legal predicates of the Secretary's adverse certification determinations.

With these consequences of the majority's approach in mind, the specific defects of the court's opinion are now explored seriatim. First, the majority is concerned that a contrary decision would unduly burden the Secretary.[11]

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[11] The majority opinion states:

> If the Secretary were required to find an individual American worker who met all the personal specifications of the prospective employer of each alien seeking Section 212(a)(14) certification, the burden on him in performing his statutory duty to protect the American labor market would be much greater than Congress intended in passing the 1965 amendments to the Act.

Majority Op. at 10. No one, of course, suggests that the Secretary shoulder such a burden in this case. In less flamboyant terms, underlying the majority's argument is a legitimate concern that the Secretary's resources should not be strained unduly in the effort to determine certifications for any particular class of workers. The Congress, however, thought that the Secretary could well discharge his responsibilities under section 212(a)(14) with presently available resources:

> The Department of Labor should have no difficulty in adapting to this new procedure [under section 212(a)(14)] inasmuch as the Department, through its Bureau of Employment Security and affiliated State Employment Service agencies, presently determines availability of domestic workers and the standards of working conditions. There is no apparent need to increase facilities.

S. REP. No. 748, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. 15 (1965). Moreover, the Secretary does possess data on the availability of live-in domestic workers, the specific class of employment at issue here. *See* text accompanying note 12 *infra*.

In any event, the simple fact remains that under section 212(a)(14) the Secretary has a statutory responsibility, triggered by an application for a labor certification, to determine the availability of "able, willing and qualified" American workers for the specific employment category at issue. The adequacy with which that responsibility has been discharged in an individual case perforce must be measured

However, data on such matters as the status and availability of domestic workers, both live-in and live-out, is something which the Department of Labor should routinely collect. Indeed, in 1969 the Department on its own initiative commenced "as standard procedure" the collection of data on the availability of live-in domestics on a bi-monthly basis, such data to be distributed regularly to the regional offices."[12]

Second, the opinon posits that Dr. Pesikoff's need for a live-in maid "is not significantly different from that of millions of American workers who reliably and adequately perform their duties without living at their employment site."[13] However, the Secretary must deal

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against a record sufficient to permit and to withstand judicial scrutiny. Such a record does not exist in this case.

[12] Field Memorandum No. 183-69, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Manpower Administration, October 10, 1969.

[13] Majority Op. at 11. It may be assumed that the "millions of American workers" live away from their place of employment because that is their firm desire which they would not relinquish under any reasonable conditions. It can also be assumed that a significant number of Americans live at the site of their employment because their duties so require. It might be noted in this regard that the tax laws of this country specifically provide for the situation where an employee is required to live on the business premises by excluding from the employee's gross income the value of lodging furnished to him by his employer. INT. REV. CODE OF 1954 § 119.

More to the point, the majority's generalization simply begs the question, that is, is the specific class of workers here involved as reliable as other classes of employees. Moreover, a significant percentage of the "millions of Americans" to which the majority refers are employed in industries and businesses which would not grind to a halt if one or several employees failed to report to work. Employee absenteeism in large manufacturing industries, for example the automobile industry, is a well known problem and automobiles are still produced. By contrast, Dr. Pesikoff presumably is a busy

with each case on an individual basis [14] and there is no showing that he did anything more than apply a broad generalization to the specific circumstances of this case. The Department of Labor has recognized that a case involving parents who both work and have pre-school age children presents special considerations which should be explored. Guidelines in this area have been promulgated to "help assure that regional offices make determinations that are consistent and reasonable." [15] For example, certification of an alien live-in domestic will be approved

> [i]f there is absolutely no availability of live-in, live-out, or dayworkers because of *insurmountable transportation difficulties* or other specific identifiable reasons, and no adverse effect. . . .[16]

"Example II" of the guidelines provides:

> In addition to housekeeping, the duties specified include care of pre-school age children . . . or similar hardship. [In this situation, if] there is absolutely no availability or adverse effect, *the basis for considering the stated condition for child care . . . must be fully explored* and when reasonable should be documented. Certification can be issued if it is ascertained that the job duties and hours are reasonable and that the *possible irregularity of attendance of dayworkers would create hardship.*[17]

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child psychiatrist, his wife was a law student and assumedly now an attorney, and if their single employee failed to present herself in the morning, one of them would be forced to remain at home or leave the children unattended.

[14] S. REP. No. 748, 89th Cong., 1st Sess. 15 (1965).

[15] Field Memorandum, *supra* note 12.

[16] *Id.* (emphasis deleted and added)

[17] *Id.* (emphasis deleted and added) The "General Comments" to the Field Memorandum state, *inter alia*:

> (2) Care of pre-school children would apply when both parents work or when there is only one adult in the family and he or she works.
>
> * * * *

[Continued]

These easily identifiable concerns—transportation difficulties, care of pre-school age children and the possible irregularity of attendance of dayworkers (specifically tied to the problem of pre-school age children)[15]—demonstrably establish, as the Secretary's own guidelines recognize, that special consideration is required for applications such as are involved in this case. The expertise underlying the promulgation of these guidelines belies the easy assumptions made in the majority opinion.

Moreover, the application of simple logic to the above guidelines, which are designed to insure "consistent and reasonable" action by the Secretary's delegates, supports the argument that the desire for a live-in maid in the

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[17] [Continued]

(4) It should be noted that a split shift is not consistent with a claimed need for child or special care and warrants a reasonable explanation.

(5) Availability is not determined solely by applicants on file in a local office. Unemployment rates in the area, information from all community sources, and results of recent telephone surveys must be weighed.

With respect to number four, a "reasonable explanation" from Dr. Pesikoff could be forthcoming in a remanded proceeding before the Secretary along the lines suggested in note 10 *supra*. It might also be noted that these "General Comments" are not, of course, controlling on any issue in this case. *See* Majority Op., note 12.

[16] The simple fact of life is that a two-year-old child requires special care and that in the normal course of events exigencies will occur which perforce demand a reliable and experienced person to handle adequately for the welfare of the child. Even assuming arguendo that the personal preference characterization is valid in this case, it is susceptible to significant doubt that the Pesikoffs will be able to secure an "able, willing and qualified" live-out maid, especially with respect to such a maid possessing references adequate to satisfy the legitimate parental concern that the person employed is suited to care for pre-school age children. *See* note 8 *supra*.

circumstances of this case is something substantially more than merely a personal preference. The guidelines control the disposition of applications for certifications of alien, live-in domestic workers. However, "[i]f there is absolutely no availability of live-in, live-out, or dayworker," [19] an alien still will not be granted certification for live-in employment absent a showing of additional need by the employer.[20] It seems logical that if all of these workers are to be classified as a homogeneous group for certification purposes, then when no domestics of any type are available an employer should be able freely to choose the type he desires. Yet quite clearly, where there are no workers of any kind available, a prospective employer of a live-in maid is required to prove the existence of special, "hardship" conditions before certification will issue.

This anomaly of logic may be resolved on either of two bases: either the Secretary has established an administrative bias against live-in domestics (for reasons not illuminated on this record) or the incidents of employment as a live-in domestic are in fact sufficiently distinct from those of a live-out domestic to support the conclusion that a desire for live-in help is something more than a personal preference. The former rationale is plainly unsupportable on this record under section 212(a)(14)(A), and the latter demonstrates, at a minimum, that a remand is necessary to explore the particular needs of Dr. Pesikoff in order to determine whether admission of an alien as a live-in maid for his family would be justified.

Finally, the majority asserts as an alternative, and perhaps the true, ground for its decision the principle that an alien may be certified under section 212(a)(14) only

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[19] Field Memorandum, *supra* note 12 (emphasis deleted).

[20] *See* "Example II," at text accompanying note 17 *supra*.

if his or her employment "will not adversely affect American wages and working conditions."[21] This correctly states the law but has no relevance to this case, since there are no facts in the record that would even suggest such a possibility in this case. Thus the opinion states that the "Secretary could well predict" such adverse effects and that "by simple misrepresentation" an employer could gain admission of an alien he intended to exploit. It is suggested that these determinations properly are to be made in the first instance by the Secretary and are not susceptible to judicial supposition. This again demonstrates the appropriateness of a remand to the Secretary for his independent and expert consideration.

## III

Several general comments on the majority opinion relating to the incidence of the burden of proof and the necessity for a remand are also pertinent here. The majority places the burden of proving unavailability upon the prospective employer.[22] Although this is consistent with the statutory structure, it does present a problem not considered in the majority opinion. That is, the majority would have the employer carry the ultimate burden of persuasion that he has been unable, or that it is impossible, to find an "able, willing and qualified" American worker—in a sense, then, the majority would have him prove the existence of the non-existent, a sometimes difficult proposition. The most practical method of proving the negative facts required for certification to issue is that followed by Dr. Pesikoff in this case, but with perhaps greater documentation. He made extensive efforts to find a suitable employee through news-

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[21] Majority Op. at 11. This concern is relevant only under section 212(a)(14)(B) and that subsection is not at issue in this case.

[22] Majority Op. at 8.

paper advertisements, employment agencies and the assistance of friends. When such efforts prove unsuccessful, the burden of production on the unavailability issue has been satisfied. The Secretary then must introduce sufficient competent evidence to overcome that adduced by the employer, failing which certification must issue.

Moreover, the nature of the proof presented by each side is necessarily implicated and should be scrutinized carefully. For example, the Secretary may introduce statistics that tend to establish sufficient availability, while the employer may show that even with the most diligent and good faith efforts a suitable employee could not be found. This tension between theoretical and actual availability properly may be resolved in favor of the employer, for judges, no less than those they judge, live in the real world and must act accordingly. This resolution, moreover, does no violence to the statutory scheme envisioned by the Congress, since it may be assumed that the Congress equally was concerned only with the actual rather than the theoretical loss of employment by an American worker.

Finally, assuming for the moment that the Secretary's personal preference characterization is valid, a remand nonetheless would be appropriate in order to preserve the distinct possibility that Ms. Quintero could be certified for admission on the basis that even live-out domestics are not reasonably available. The majority opinion notes in this regard that the evidence represented by the Texas Employment Commission's report establishes "a pool of potential workers [sufficient] to support certification denial. . . ." [23] In the footnote to this statement,[24] the opinion posits that "[i]f the report of the State Employment Service stood unimpeached," the Sec-

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[23] *Id.* at 14.

[24] *Id.* at 14 n. 15.

retary's determination must be sustained. The simple fact is, however, that the Commission's report on which the majority relies *has* been impeached, *and by the Secretary himself.* Counsel for the Secretary vigorously asserts:

> [A]ppellants would like the Court to rely on the statement of the [Texas] Employment Commission. As anyone who has dealt with state employment commissions knows, they are not a final and conclusive, nor even an efficient, repository for information with regard to positions and employees available. They exist primarily to administer unemployment compensation programs.[25]

If the Secretary, through his counsel, represents that this court cannot justifiably rely on such evidence, it is submitted that a remand is necessary to develop a record comprised of competent evidence, evidence of sufficient quality to insure the sound adjudication of the case at bar.

In summary, the majority, perhaps in the belief that a remand would be a futile gesture, finds the material facts itself without the benefit of a potentially illuminating factual inquiry at the district court or administrative level. Mindful of the fact that this case was dismissed on the pleadings by the district court for failure to state a cause of action and that the record at the administrative level could only fairly be termed barren, one arrives ineluctably at the conclusion that the majority has arrogated administrative and trial court functions an appellate court was never intended to and does not possess. The result is that Dr. Pesikoff's request—and it is fairly humble—that he be given the opportunity to prove the provable is spurned.

I dissent.

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[25] Secretary's Br. at 17.

## APPENDIX B

### UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
### FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

**No. 72-2206** SEPTEMBER TERM, 1973

Richard B. Pesikoff, *et al.*, *Appellants* Civil Action 492-72

v.

The Secretary of Labor

APPEAL FROM THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Before: Wright, Robinson, and MacKinnon, Circuit Judges.

JUDGMENT

This cause came on to be heard on the record on appeal from the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, and was argued by counsel.

On consideration thereof, it is ORDERED AND ADJUDGED by this Court that the judgment of the District Court appealed from in this cause is hereby affirmed, in accordance with the opinion filed herein this date.

Per Curiam
For the Court:

/s/ Hugh E. Kline
Clerk

Date: May 3, 1974

Opinion for the Court filed by Circuit Judge Wright.
Opinion concurring in part and dissenting in part filed by Circuit Judge MacKinnon.

* * *

## APPENDIX C

## UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
## FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT

**No. 72-2206** SEPTEMBER TERM, 1973

Richard B. Pesikoff, *et al.*,
*Appellants*
v.
The Secretary of Labor

Civil Action 492-72

* * *

Filed May 31, 1974
Hugh E. Kline
Clerk

Before: Wright, Robinson and MacKinnon, Circuit Judges.

### ORDER

On consideration of appellants' petition for rehearing, it is

ORDERED by the Court that appellants' aforesaid petition is denied.

*Per Curiam*
For the Court:

/s/ Hugh E. Kline
Clerk

## APPENDIX D

(Title omitted) **Filed:** November 7, 1972

### ORDER

This cause having come before the Court on the motion of defendant to dismiss the Complaint herein pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6), Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Court having considered all of the pleadings and other papers filed herein, it is therefore by the Court this 7th day of November, 1972,

ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, that defendant's motion to dismiss the Complaint herein be, and it is hereby, granted; and it is

FURTHER ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED, that the Complaint herein be and, it is hereby dismissed.

/s/ Aubrey E. Robinson, Jr.
Judge, United States District
Court for the District of Columbia

Approved as to Form:

/s/ Jack Wasserman
JACK WASSERMAN
Attorney for Plaintiffs

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# In the Supreme Court of the United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1974

No. 74-45

RICHARD B. PESIKOFF, ET AL., PETITIONERS

*v.*

THE SECRETARY OF LABOR

*ON PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CIRCUIT*

## BRIEF FOR THE RESPONDENT IN OPPOSITION

### OPINION BELOW

The opinion of the court of appeals (Pet. App. A) is not yet reported. The district court rendered no opinion.

### JURISDICTION

The judgment of the court of appeals was entered on May 3, 1974. A petition for rehearing was denied on May 31, 1974. The petition for a writ of certiorari was filed on August 1, 1974. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked under 28 U.S.C. 1254(1).

### QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether the complaint was properly dismissed for failure to state a cause of action where it alleged that an alien labor certification should be granted



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under 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) because no American live-in maids were available, although the Secretary of Labor had determined that the live-in requirement was a personal preference of the employer and that there was a large pool of qualified American workers available.

2. Whether the failure to publish interpretative internal memoranda of the Department of Labor voids the instant denial of labor certification in spite of the fact that petitioner was not adversely affected by the memoranda and the Secretary did not refer to them in either his denial or subsequent defense of that denial.

3. Whether the court of appeals committed reversible error by referring in passing to alternative grounds for affirming the decision which were not explicitly stated by the Secretary.

## STATUTE INVOLVED

8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) provides in pertinent part:

> (a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the following classes of aliens shall be ineligible to receive visas and shall be excluded from admission into the United States:
>
> * * * * *
>
> (14) Aliens seeking to enter the United States for the purpose of performing skilled or unskilled labor, unless the Secretary of Labor has determined and certified to the Secretary of State and to the Attorney General that (A) there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, and available at the time of application for a visa and admission to the United States and at

> the place to which the alien is destined to perform such skilled or unskilled labor, and (B) the employment of such aliens will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of the workers in the United States similarly employed. * * *

## STATEMENT

Petitioner Pesikoff, a Houston child psychologist, and his wife, a law student, sought a live-in maid to care for their two children and to handle various household chores. They entered into a contract with the alien petitioner, Maria De Jesus Quintero, for her to work for them as a live-in maid.

Pursuant to the appropriate administrative procedure, petitioners requested that the Secretary of Labor ("The Secretary") issue the necessary certification under 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) to obtain special immigrant status for petitioner Quintero.[1] They rep-

[1] Before an alien in the position of petitioner Quintero may obtain special immigrant status for the purpose of employment, the Secretary of Labor must certify to the Secretary of State and the Attorney General, pursuant to 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14), that (A) there are not sufficient workers in the United States who are able, willing, qualified, and available for the job which the alien has been offered, and (B) that the alien's employment will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similar workers in the United States.

The Secretary of Labor has delegated his power to issue labor certifications to the office of the Manpower Administration for the area wherein the employment is to occur. 29 C.F.R. 60.4 (a). For aliens in the circumstances of petitioner, application must first be made to the State Employment Service, which evaluates the market for people qualified to fill the job in question; the State Employment Service forwards its report and information to the office of Manpower Administration. 29 C.F.R. 60.3(c). A certifying officer appointed by the Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator makes the denial determination based on the

resented that Quintero's work day would be 8 a.m. to noon and from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m. (Pet. App. 2a). This request was initially denied in a form letter from a Department of Labor Manpower Administration officer in Dallas, Texas, stating "U.S. workers are available" (A.R.A., letter of July 28, 1971 from United States Department of Labor;[2] Pet. App. 2a–3a). Prior to the denial the certifying officer had received a report from the Houston office of the Texas Employment Commission which indicated that there were approximately 180 maids in the area who were seeking employment. The report ended with the following paragraph under "other comments" (A.R.A., Transmittal memorandum of July 20, 1971):

> There are approximately 180 Maids, General registered in the Local Office; there are also approximately 125 Dayworkers who are seeking work and are paid at the rate of $1.25 per hour, but the Local Office states that 75% of Maids, General and Dayworkers are working one to three days a week, but their application cards are kept active while they are seeking extra days to fill the week. Many change jobs frequently and definitely are not interested in live-in work. Very few will accept jobs that require cooking. In contacts with employers advertising in the newspapers for domestics, it

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State Employment Service's report and other available information. 29 C.F.R. 60.4(a). Appeal from the certifying officer's determination lies to the Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator or a designated reviewing officer, whose determination is final. 29 C.F.R. 60.4(c).

[2] The administrative record on appeal, a copy of which is being lodged with the clerk of this Court, will be cited "A.R.A.", followed by a reference to the specific document cited.

> is found that the response is fair, they find that it is seldom they can find an applicant who is desirable, or who can furnish valid references. * * *

The certifying officer's decision was affirmed by the Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator, who stated (A.R.A., letter of September 8, 1971 from Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator):

> Under Section 212(a)(14) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, it is the responsibility of the Department of Labor to protect the job opportunities and wages and working standards of the United States labor force. An alien may not be certified for employment if there are U.S. workers available or if the alien's employment would adversely affect similarly employed U.S. workers. These provisions of the law apply to all aliens as long as they are seeking to enter for employment.
>
> The job duties listed in the application for a live-in worker do not differ from those required of a dayworker. When the job duties and conditions of employment are those normally identified with dayworkers, the Department of Labor cannot grant certification for employment of immigrant live-in workers.
>
> Based on the job described and the hours of work, the live-in requirement is a personal preference and not a necessity in the performance of the job.
>
> At the time of the employer's application, we were advised by the local office of the Texas Employment Commission that there were 180 qualified and available U.S. workers for the job offered the alien, but that none was willing to live-in. * * *

Petitioners then filed suit in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia, seeking a declaratory judgment (under 28 U.S.C. 2201) that the denial of the labor certification was "arbitrary, an abuse of discretion, [and] contrary to law." They alleged, *inter alia,* that petitioner Pesikoff required a live-in maid and that none was available in the Houston area. The district court dismissed the complaint for failure to state a cause of action (Pet. App. 33a), and the court of appeals affirmed, holding that "we find proper the Secretary's treatment of Dr. Pesikoff's live-in requirement for his maid as a personal preference irrelevant to determination of whether there was in Houston a pool of potential workers willing to perform the Pesikoffs' domestic tasks" (Pet. App. 10a).

## ARGUMENT

1. The district court correctly concluded that petitioners' complaint did not state a cause of action. The complaint focused almost exclusively on petitioner's desire for a *live-in* maid (Appendix in Court of Appeals, pp. 2–4, pars. 5, 6, 8, 12). The Secretary properly found that the duties petitioner allegedly desired to be performed from 8 a.m. to noon and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. could be performed by persons who did not live in. Petitioner gave no reason for his desire that the maid live in his household. Petitioners' assertion of a shortage of live-in help thus did not state a cause of action.

The Secretary may determine which characteristics desired by a prospective employer are essential to the performance of the job, and which are merely optional or desirable. If this were not so, every employer could

request qualities tailored specifically to the prospective immigrant, and the intent of Congress would be defeated. As the court of appeals stated (Pet. App. 10a–11a):

> * * * we find proper the Secretary's treatment of Dr. Pesikoff's live-in requirement for his maid as a personal preference irrelevant to determination of whether there was in Houston a pool of potential workers willing to perform the Pesikoffs' domestic tasks. If the Secretary were required to find an individual American worker who met all the personal specifications of the prospective employer of each alien seeking Section 212(a)(14) certification, the burden on him in performing his statutory duty to protect the American labor market would be much greater than Congress intended in passing the 1965 amendments to the Act. It is well within the Secretary's discretion to ignore employer specifications which he deems, in accordance with his labor market expertise, to be irrelevant to the basic job which the employer desires performed. The Secretary may, therefore, survey the available labor market for a class of workers who, while possibly not meeting the prospective employer's personalized job description, do provide the employer with the potential for getting his job accomplished. The Secretary's treatment and classification of Dr. Pesikoff's employee request as one for a general maid who could live in or out was an appropriate exercise of the above described discretion. Dr. Pesikoff's statement to the Labor Department that Ms. Quintero would work only from 8:00 to 12:00 noon and 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. indicates that her need to live in is not

> significantly different from that of millions of American workers who reliably and adequately perform their duties without living at their employment site.

Hence, even if petitioners had been allowed to prove, as they alleged, that there were no live-in maids available, a cause of action would not have been established since the Secretary had reasonably determined that there were qualified American workers available who, while not willing to live in, could satisfy the essential elements of petitioner's job requirements.

2. Petitioners argue that there is a conflict in the circuits on the issue of the burden of proof (and the related issue of the sufficiency of the evidence) involved in a denial of certification under 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(14) (Pet. 12). In addressing this issue, the court below stated (Pet. App. 7a–10a):

> * * * We first stress that the section is written so as to set up a presumption that aliens should not be permitted to enter the United States for the purpose of performing labor because of the likely harmful impact of their admission on American workers. This presumption, the statutory language makes clear, can be overcome only if the Secretary of Labor has determined that the two conditions set forth in parts (A) and (B) of the subsection are met. This structuring of the statute strongly indicates that the Secretary is not obligated to prove in the case of every alien seeking entry to perform labor that the conditions are not met. Given the presumption of the statute against admission, if the Secretary's consultation of the general labor market data

readily available to him suggests that there is a pool of potential workers available to perform the job which the alien seeks, the burden should be placed on the alien or his putative employer to prove that it is not possible for the employer to find a qualified American worker.

This interpretation of the statute is supported by its legislative history. Before enactment of the 1965 amendments to the Immigration and Nationality Act, Section 212(a)(14) was structured to permit entry to aliens seeking to perform labor in the United States unless the Secretary of Labor certified that there were sufficient American workers available to perform such labor or that the employment of the aliens would adversely affect the wages and working conditions of American workers. The Senate and House reports on the 1965 amendments to the Act make clear that Congress, by restructuring Section 212(a)(14) to exclude such aliens unless the Secretary certified that there were *not* sufficient American workers available, intended to reverse the prior presumption favoring admission to strengthen the protection of the American labor market and to reduce the burden on the Secretary in implementing this protection. Moreover, Senator Kennedy, who played a major role in shepherding the 1965 amendments through Congress, stated on the Senate floor:

> Under [the old] procedure, the Secretary certifies that aliens falling under certain occupational or skill definitions should be excluded because they will threaten domestic employment. The new bill reverses this procedure. *It places the*

> ***burden of proving no adverse effect on the applying alien.*** The intending immigrant must receive a certificate from the Secretary of Labor that his presence will not affect U.S. employment, wages, or working conditions.
>
> 111 Cong. Rec. (Part 18) 24227 (1965) (emphasis added). [Footnotes omitted.]

Other circuits that have confronted the question of denial of certification have not dealt explicitly with the burden of proof issue. They have generally agreed that the Secretary's determination is presumptively correct and that it will be reversed only if "arbitrary, capricious, [or] an abuse of discretion." See *First Girl, Inc.* v. *Regional Manpower Administrator of the United States Department of Labor,* No. 73–2009, slip op. p. 3, decided July 2, 1974 (C.A. 7); *Ratnayake* v. *Mack,* No. 73–1865, slip op. p. 6, decided June 12, 1974 (C.A. 8); *Digilab, Inc.* v. *Secretary of Labor,* 495 F. 2d 323, 327 (C.A. 1), certiorari denied, No. 73–1904, October 15, 1974. ("Secretary's discretion * * * not lightly to be disregarded"); *Secretary of Labor* v. *Farino,* 490 F. 2d 885, 889–890 (C.A. 7).

These cases deal with a very wide variety of factual circumstances. In the cases petitioners cite (Pet. 12), certain specific factual determinations by the Secretary were found to have been made without evidence. Thus, for example, in *Reddy, Inc.,* v. *United States Department of Labor,* 492 F. 2d 538, 539 (C.A. 5), the court held that there was no evidence that workers were available "at the place" of proposed employment, as required by the statute, despite evidence that workers were available nationally. In

*Digilab, supra,* the court held that evidence of the availability of workers generally designated as "electrical engineers" did not constitute evidence that there were workers who could do the specialized work the employer sought. While we agree that the courts of appeals have tended to scrutinize closely whether the Secretary's determination is based on evidence relevant to that determination, there is no specific conflict with the instant case, where such evidence was found to exist. The different situations involved may properly result in differing results, even by application of the same standard.

Petitioners' claim essentially amounts to a requirement that the Secretary must issue a certification unless he can point to a specific person who is acceptable to the employer to fill the job. We submit that this is a misreading of the intent of Congress and the language of the statute and that no court of appeals has so held. Thus, the denial of petitioners' claim in the instant case is not in conflict with the decision of any other court of appeals and does not warrant further review.

3. Petitioners also assert that the denial of the certification was based on internal memoranda of the Department of Labor (Pet. 13). Because these memoranda were not published, petitioners contend that the denial of the certification was improper. This claim is insubstantial.

As the court of appeals held, even assuming that the memoranda should have been published, petitioners were not injured. The court stated (Pet. App. 13a, n. 12):

> [5 U.S.C.] 552 states that "[e]xcept to the extent that a person has actual and timely

notice of the terms thereof, a person may not in any manner be required to resort to, or be adversely affected by, a matter required to be published in the Federal Register and not so published." 5 U.S.C. § 552(a)(1)(E). Dr. Pesikoff was not adversely affected by not learning of the internal memorandum before this litigation, assuming such a late awareness. He would have stood in no better stead if he had had notice of the internal memorandum before filing his request for Ms. Quintero's certification. If he desires to avoid the memorandum's directive, he can still request certification by representing that Ms. Quintero will work both day and night although, as stressed in text, such a representation would suggest an adverse impact on American working conditions. Indeed, in view of the Secretary's lack of reference to the memorandum in his statement of denial and our finding that the statute directly supported his treatment of the live-in preference, we cannot say that the Pesikoffs were affected by the memorandum at all. Appellants' position would not be advanced if we held the Secretary's general statement of policy as to the matters contained in the challenged internal memorandum to be completely void and without effect. *Compare Lewis-Mota* v. *Secretary of Labor,* 2 Cir., 469 F. 2d 478, 482 (1972).[*]

[*] Petitioners also argue that the instant decision is in conflict with *Lewis-Mota* v. *Secretary of Labor*, 469 F. 2d 478, 482 (C.A. 2), and *Texaco, Inc.* v. *Federal Power Commission*, 412 F. 2d 740, 744 (C.A. 3). In those cases, the failure to publish regulations clearly affected the parties since the regulations required affirmative action by them. Here, by contrast, the internal memoranda did not require action by petitioners and there was no apparent reliance on the memoranda by the Secretary of Labor.

Petitioners argue in the alternative that if the memoranda are valid, "the certification denial was issued in disregard of the Department's rules" (Pet. 16). They contend that there was no reliance on a telephone survey, in violation of subparagraph (5) of memorandum No. 183–69, which states (Pet. 6–7):[4]

> (5) Availability is not determined solely by applicants on file in a local office. Unemployment rates in the area, information from all community sources, and results of recent telephone surveys must be weighed.

The import of this paragraph is that before a certification is *granted,* all four sources must be investigated in order to insure the absence of qualified American workers. Were it to be given the interpretation petitioners suggest (that a prerequisite to *denial* of certification is reliance on all four sources), the department would frequently be required to persist with the ritual of checking alternative sources after having already ascertained through an earlier source that there are indeed American workers available. Once it was determined that there were approximately 180 maids in the Houston area seeking employment through the Texas Employment Commission, there was no requirement that the Secretary continue investigating alternative sources to duplicate this information.

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[4] There apparently was a telephone survey made at some time by the Texas Employment Commission. They noted that "In contacts with employers advertising in the newspapers for domestics, it is found that the response is fair, they find that it is seldom they can find an applicant who is desirable, or who can furnish valid references." (A.R.A., transmittal memorandum of July 20, 1971; Pet. 16).

4. Petitioners also maintain that the court of appeals considered improper factors in reaching its decision (Pet. 18). This apparently refers to the court of appeals' passing reference [5] to petitioners'

[5] The final paragraph of the majority opinion in the court of appeals (with its footnotes 13 and 14) states (Pet. App. 13a–14a): "Given our conclusion that the Secretary's treatment of Dr. Pesikoff's live-in preference was proper and our analysis of Section 212(a)(14), we have no difficulty in finding the Secretary had adequate support for his denial of certification. The Secretary, prior to that denial, had been informed by the Texas Employment Commission that it estimated from independent sources that in excess of 100 workers were available for general maid work in Houston and that 180 workers were registered as maids at the Commission's Houston office. To be sure, the Employment Commission in its report to the Secretary stated that a majority of the registered maids were already employed on a part-time basis [13] and that very few were willing to cook.[14] We think, however, that the general data provided the Secretary by the Commission offered sufficient evidence of a pool of potential workers to support certification denial, at least in the absence of any evidence offered by Dr. Pesikoff or Ms. Quintero proving it was impossible to find an appropriate worker in this pool. Dr. Pesikoff apparently did not attempt to offer any such evidence to the Secretary, and he suggests to us no evidence he could offer on remand. He does not even represent that he made any attempt to contact the maids registered at the office. We think it clear that Congress did not intend Section 212(a)(14) to create an employment placement office in the Department of Labor; there is no onus on the Secretary to provide personal preference employers like Dr. Pesikoff with personal preference qualified American workers."

"[13] Although the Pesikoffs of course wanted a maid to work a full week, we take note of the fact that many part-time laborers seize an opportunity to transfer into a full-time position, at least when the pay is sufficient."

"[14] The Secretary of course might well have reasoned within his expertise that the number of maids willing to cook would be significantly increased if they were offered wages above the level prevailing in Houston for general maids."

failure to attempt to show that none of the maids registered with the Texas Employment Commission was a suitable employee. This statement is not inconsistent with the administrative record. The record reveals that petitioner was not interested in day workers (A.R.A., letter from Mr. Wasserman to Texas Employment Commission, of August 19, 1971; Complaint, pars. 6, 12). Since the Secretary had explicitly informed petitioner that his job description could be filled by a day worker and that there were 180 such workers available, the court of appeals was not substituting its views for that of the administrative agency, as prohibited by *Securities and Exchange Commission* v. *Chenery Corp.*, 332 U.S. 194, 196, and *Burlington Truck Lines* v. *United States*, 371 U.S. 156, 169. In fact, the Secretary's decision and the court of appeals opinion were both explicitly based on the finding that a day worker could fulfill the job duties petitioner had described and that such day workers were available (A.R.A., Letter from Assistant Regional Manpower Administrator to Mr. Wasserman, September 8, 1971; Pet. App. 10a–12a). The fact that passing reference was also made to several common sense factors which the court apparently regarded as alternative grounds upon which the Secretary's decision could have been based does not warrant reversal.

## CONCLUSION

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the petition for a writ of certiorari should be denied.

ROBERT H. BORK,
*Solicitor General.*
HENRY E. PETERSEN,
*Assistant Attorney General.*
JEROME M. FEIT,
TERENCE M. BROWN,
*Attorneys.*

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